

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4050 INTRODUCED 2-5-91

The bill would create the Michigan Academic Excellence Award Act to require the Michigan Higher Education Assistance Authority (MHEAA) to award grants to the qualifying graduate, or graduates, of each Michigan high school who met the bill's requirements.

Awarding Scholarships. Under the bill, the authority would annually award grants of at least \$500 each. If the legislature were to appropriate additional funds, the amount of the award would be increased by a proportional amount. The authority would promulgate rules necessary to implement the bill under the Administrative Procedures Act.

Eligibility Requirements. The grants would be awarded to high school graduates who who had been residents of Michigan for the preceding 12 months, who had enrolled in a Michigan college or university (but not in a program of study leading to a degree in theology, divinity, or religious education), and who would not receive money that year from another scholarship or grant award program administered by MHEAA or by the State Board of Education, and who had been designated by their schools as having achieved the highest final score in their graduating class. The academic achievement formula used in determining the qualifying graduate or graduates from each school would equal the student's grade point average multiplied by 250 and added to either the quotient of the student's scholastic aptitude test (SAT) score divided by 1.6, or the product of the student's American college testing test (ACT) composite score multiplied by 28.571, whichever produced the higher total score. (Under the bill, "grade point average" would mean a student's average grade on a 4.0 scale, rounded to 3 decimals, in courses in math, English, science, social sciences, and foreign languages, for all semesters through the first half of the senior year).

Enrollment Certification, Scholarship Disbursement. Before payment of an award were made, the recipient would have to certify to the authority in writing the name of the state college or university in which he or she were enrolled and the recipient's intent to use the scholarship for paying educational expenses. At the student's option, the authority would have to pay the scholarship in one lump sum to the recipient or to the school of enrollment for credit to the student's account. The payment would have to be made no earlier than 4 weeks after the recipient enrolled in school nor later than 8 weeks after enrollment.